

# SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress  
2nd Session

Vote No. 253

July 30, 1996, 12:20 pm  
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## ENERGY-WATER APPROPRIATIONS/Final Passage

**SUBJECT:** Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1997 . . . H.R. 3816. Final passage, as amended.

### ACTION: BILL PASSED, 93-6

**SYNOPSIS:** As passed, H.R. 3816, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1997, will provide \$20.735 billion in new budget authority to the Department of Defense's Civil Corps of Engineers, to the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation, to the relevant offices within the Department of Energy, and to related independent agencies and commissions. Appropriations will be as follows:

- Civil Corps of Engineers: \$3.456 billion; no new construction projects will be started or authorized;
- Department of the Interior: \$842.8 million, including \$809.2 million for the Bureau of Reclamation (\$10 million of which will be for the Animas La Plata Project; see vote No. 251 for related debate) and \$43.6 million for the Central Utah Project completion account;
- Department of Energy: \$16.113 billion, including \$11.583 billion for Atomic Energy Defense Activities (for related debate, see vote No. 250), \$245.6 million for the Power Marketing Administrations, and \$40 million for the Advanced Light Water Reactor Program (for related debate, see vote No. 249); and
- Independent Agencies: \$313.3 million, including \$165 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission (for related debate, see vote No. 252) and \$113 million for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

#### Miscellaneous:

- State and local governments will be given some authority to limit the importation of waste from other States (the text is identical to the text of S. 534 as passed last session; see 104th Congress , 1st session, vote No. 169);
- due to repeated and blatant failures of the Clinton Administration to follow congressional intent in spending funds appropriated for the Energy accounts funded by past Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bills, the Department of Energy will be required to report monthly to Congress on its adherence to the recommendations in the committee report accompanying this bill;

(See other side)

YEAS (93)				NAYS (6)		NOT VOTING (1)	
Republican (48 or 92%)		Democrats (45 or 96%)		Republicans (4 or 8%)	Democrats (2 or 4%)	Republicans (1)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Helms	Akaka	Inouye	Brown	Feingold	Frahm- <sup>2</sup>	
Ashcroft	Hutchison	Baucus	Johnston	Kyl	Kerry		
Bennett	Inhofe	Biden	Kennedy	McCain			
Bond	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kerrey	Roth			
Burns	Kassebaum	Boxer	Kohl				
Campbell	Kempthorne	Bradley	Lautenberg				
Chafee	Lott	Breaux	Leahy				
Coats	Lugar	Bryan	Levin				
Cochran	Mack	Bumpers	Lieberman				
Cohen	McConnell	Byrd	Mikulski				
Coverdell	Murkowski	Conrad	Moseley-Braun				
Craig	Nickles	Daschle	Moynihan				
D'Amato	Pressler	Dodd	Murray				
DeWine	Santorum	Dorgan	Nunn				
Domenici	Shelby	Exon	Pell				
Faircloth	Simpson	Feinstein	Pryor				
Frist	Smith	Ford	Reid				
Gorton	Snowe	Glenn	Robb				
Gramm	Specter	Graham	Rockefeller				
Grams	Stevens	Harkin	Sarbanes				
Grassley	Thomas	Heflin	Simon				
Gregg	Thompson	Hollings	Wellstone				
Hatch	Thurmond		Wyden				
Hatfield	Warner						

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

#### SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

- funds will be provided for research into reducing the costs of converting saline water to fresh water; and
- it is the sense of the Senate that if a new U.S.-Japan Semiconductor Agreement is not concluded by July 31, 1996, certain actions should be taken, including all necessary and appropriate actions to enforce trade laws on market access and to prevent dumping.

NOTE: Immediately prior to final passage, the Senate struck all after the enacting clause and inserted in lieu thereof the text of S. 1959, as amended.

**Those favoring** final passage contended:

This bill will provide a slight increase in funding over last year. The domestic accounts that it funds will continue to decline, but the defense accounts will climb for two main reasons. First, nuclear cleanup efforts are being increased to remove pollution that was created in the arms race, particularly in the early years of the Cold War. Along with that increased funding, new procedures will be followed that will make those efforts more efficient and effective. Second, increased funding will be given to develop the capability to test the safety and reliability of our nuclear weapon stockpile without actually exploding any nuclear devices. Had the Administration provided as much funding as experts say is needed, it would have asked for much higher funding than this bill will provide. We need to develop this capability because the Administration has announced that no further nuclear tests will be conducted. Not testing, and thereby leaving unanswered many questions about the safety and reliability of our aging nuclear weapons, is not an option we will consider. For nondefense activities we had to make some difficult decisions. Cuts were made in many popular programs, but we held the line on fusion, high-energy physics, nuclear physics, and biological and environmental research. Overall, we are confident that our colleagues will agree with the priorities as set forth in this bill, and will join us in voting in favor of final passage.

**Those opposing** final passage contended:

Senators should vote against this bill because it will continue the practice of earmarking Army Corps of Engineer projects. The projects are not picked by merit; they are selected by Senators and put in the bill. Perhaps not by coincidence, most of the projects that have been earmarked are in the home States of Appropriations Committee Members. A more acceptable way of determining projects to fund would be to involve all the States in developing a priority list, and then to fund the projects of greatest priority. Overall, this bill is balanced and responsible, but we must still vote against it in protest because of these earmarks.